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FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2833
INFO RUEHEK/AMEMBASSY BISHKEK IMMEDIATE 0005
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE 4424
RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL IMMEDIATE 0029
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE 0146
RUEHNO/USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE 0041
RHHMUNA/CDR USPACOM HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE
RHHJJAA/JICPAC HONOLULU HI IMMEDIATE
RHEHAAA/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L WELLINGTON 000410

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STATE FOR D (FRITZ), EAP/FO, EAP/ANP, SCA/DAS, EUR/RUS, AND
EUR/RPM
NSC FOR VICTOR CHA
SECDEF FOR OSD/ISD LIZ PHU
PACOM FOR JO1E/J2/J233/J5/SJFHQ

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/26/2016
TAGS: MARR MOPS PREL NZ
SUBJECT: DEMARCHE ON MANAS AIRFIELD

REF: SECSTATE 81543

Classified By: DCM DAVID R. BURNETT,
FOR REASONS 1.4 (B) AND (D)

¶1. (C) On May 23, Pol-Econ Counselor and DATT shared reftel demarche with Chris Seed, Deputy Secretary of Defence. PE Couns also separately conveyed the demarche to Matthew Paterson, Policy Officer in the Security Policy Division at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT).

¶2. (C) On May 25, Paterson told PE Couns that as an originating member, New Zealand continues to take OEF very seriously. GNZ also remains grateful to the United States for the logistical support it has provided for New Zealand's participation, as well as for the potential air cover and evacuation support that NZ fortunately has not needed to date. For this reason, New Zealand would be happy to support our request.

¶3. (C) New Zealand has no diplomatic mission in Kyrgyzstan, which is covered out of NZ's Embassy in Moscow. The new NZ Ambassador to Russia, Christopher Elder, has not yet presented his credentials to the Kyrgyz Government, and MFAT is considering combining the presentation (which has not yet been arranged) with the request on our behalf regarding Manas Airfield. Paterson also said MFAT believes that as NZDF had deployed a C-130 at Manas during the initial stages of OEF, New Zealand still has useful contacts there. Peterson cautioned that no matter what strategy MFAT ultimately pursues, GNZ has found it can take a while to arrange meetings with Kyrgyz officials, as New Zealand has few significant interests in Kyrgyzstan. He promised to keep PE Couns advised as to GNZ's progress.

McCormick